PHARMACY BOARD[657]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Board of Pharmacy hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 8, "Universal Practice Standards," Iowa Administrative Code.

The amendment was approved at the June 3, 2008, regular meeting of the Board of Pharmacy.

The proposed amendment authorizes a hospital to make available to prescribers while they practice in the hospital generic prescription blanks or forms that may identify the hospital pharmacy.

Requests for waiver or variance of the discretionary provisions of this rule will be considered pursuant to 657—Chapter 34.

Any interested person may present written comments, data, views, and arguments on the proposed amendment not later than 4:30 p.m. on July 22, 2008. Such written materials may be sent to Terry Witkowski, Executive Officer, Board of Pharmacy, 400 S.W. Eighth Street, Suite E, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-4688; or by E-mail to terry.witkowski@iowa.gov.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 147.55 and 155A.12.

The following amendment is proposed.

Amend subrule 8.11(5) as follows:

8.11(5) Freedom of choice/solicitation/kickbacks/fee-splitting and imprinted prescription blanks or forms. A pharmacist or pharmacy shall not enter into any agreement which negates a patient's freedom of choice of pharmacy services. A pharmacist or pharmacy shall not participate in prohibited agreements with any person in exchange for recommending, promoting, accepting, or promising to accept the professional pharmaceutical services of any pharmacist or pharmacy. "Person" includes an individual, corporation, partnership, association, firm, or other entity. "Prohibited agreements" includes an agreement or arrangement that provides premiums, "kickbacks," fee-splitting, or special charges as compensation or inducement for placement of business or solicitation of patronage with any pharmacist or pharmacy. "Kickbacks" includes, but is not limited to, the provision of medication carts, facsimile machines, any other equipment, or preprinted forms or supplies for the exclusive use of a facility or practitioner at no charge or billed below reasonable market rate. A pharmacist shall not provide, cause to be provided, or offer to provide to any person authorized to prescribe prescription blanks or forms bearing the pharmacist's or pharmacy's name, address, or other means of identification, except that a hospital may make available to hospital staff prescribers, emergency department prescribers, and prescribers granted hospital privileges for the prescribers' use during practice at or in the hospital generic prescription blanks or forms bearing the name, address, or telephone number of the hospital pharmacy.